

SIGHTS AND SCENERY.

The Lyceum Theatre.—In the "Game of Speculation" played here, the management have found a trump-card, and are clearing the board. It is a capital piece of writing (the pith by Balzac), shrewd and witty; and furnishes Mr. Charles Mathews with one of the best parts that he has ever had. *Mr. Affable Hawk*, who, having paid away all his gold, now paws in brass, is a speculator of no common mould, represented in no common way;—an accomplished scamp, cool, eloquent, and fertile, who could talk a bird off the bushes, and, Sheridan-like, transform by a touch the implacable dun into a sympathising friend. A more finished piece of acting has seldom been seen. One has a suspicion of evil in the gloss thrown over indifferent principles, but this is forgotten in enjoyment of the delineation. *Earthworm* (Mr. F. Mathews), *Grosmark*, and *Hardecore* (Suter), are three phases of the creditor, very cleverly portrayed.

The Adelphi Theatre.—"Bloomerism."—The laughable farce under this title at the Adelphi will not injure the movement. Miss Woolgar and Miss Fitzwilliam look so well and act so well in the new costume, that some will think the whole has been arranged by those clever ladies who are now striving to emancipate their sex. We went the other night to a Bloomer demonstration at Miss Kelly's Theatre in Dean-street, and must admit that the real-earnest disciples were less striking in appearance than their merry imitators at the Adelphi. It is due, however, to the "American Lady" who lectured on that occasion, to say that she made an exceedingly good case for the sex, and by her earnestness, simplicity, and apparent goodness, triumphantly silenced the few that went to scoff. The lectures and exhibitions of Bloomerism are bad, but we are disposed to think that the result will be an improvement in female costume. Whether or not, however, this be the case, we will venture to say that "Bloomerism" will hold its place for some time at the Adelphi. Another bloomer at this theatre, is "The Forest Rose," wherein Mr. Silaby, the best American low-comedy actor that has yet been on this side of the "big driok," plays with genuine humour.

NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

Elton.—The College authorities have granted a site for a new chapel near the present one, and a committee has been appointed by the parishioners to promote the object in view. The probable cost of the chapel will be about 5,000*l.* Of this sum about 2,000*l.* have already been subscribed; and a sub-committee has been directed to confer with some architect of eminence as to the design, and to report.

Caersham.—The chief stone of the new church of Kidmore End, in this parish, was laid on Monday in last week. The church is from a design by Mr. Arthur Billing, architect. It is in the Early English style. The plan is that of a double parallelogram, consisting of a nave, chancel, north porch, and small vestry; the nave being 60 feet long by 22 feet wide; and the chancel 17 feet by 20 feet, the east end of which is of an apsidal form. The nave is lighted with simple lancet windows on the north and south sides and at the west end. Between each window a buttress of two stages is introduced, dividing each side of the church into four bays: in the second of these, on the north side, is the porch, which is of stone, with timber roof of open framework. The west front has a gable turret of a simple character. The chancel is lighted by seven trefoil-headed lancet windows. Beneath the eastern window, on the south side, is a recessed stone sedilia, for the officiating clergy. The chancel will have a groined stone roof, supported by columns. The chancel arch embraces the whole width of the nave. The roof to the nave is to be of open framework. The sittings are to be free, and will accommodate 220 persons: they consist of plain open benches. The woodwork is to be stained and varnished. The walls are built of flint, with Bath stone dressings and quoins to the windows and buttresses. The exterior walls, to the height of about 5 feet, have been erected.

Osprey.—The new parish schools of Osprey were opened by the Archbishop of Canterbury on 1st inst. The buildings are for the accommodation of a master and mistress and 100 children. The site has been given by the Fellows of St. John's, Cambridge, and the subscription headed by the vicar, Rev. William Nathaniel Griffin, with the munificent sum of 100*l.* The design is by Mr. Martin Bulmer, of Maidstone, and carried out by Messrs. Day and Whitby, of Osprey. The whole cost is about 480*l.*

Holywell.—On 29th ult., the foundation-stone of a new church was laid at Brynford, parish of Holywell. This is one of the two churches to be erected in the parishes of Holywell and Whitford, in lieu of the one built by Lord Fielding at Pantasa, and transferred by him to the Romanists.

Wolverhampton.—A new Roman Catholic Church is about to be erected here, according to the local *Chronicle*. The building will be of the Early English style of twelfth and fourteenth centuries. It will, when completed, be a cruciform structure, having a tower at the intersection of the nave, the chancel, and the transepts. The length of the building from the west entrance to the temporary position of the altar, previously to the erection of the chancel, will be about 110 feet, the transepts measuring from one extremity to the other, about 96 feet; and its width, embracing the side aisles, 66 feet. The interior height of the nave will be about 50 feet—that of the side aisles being 20 feet each. The exterior of the west front will be about 70 feet high. The west window will have six lights, ornamented with flowered tracery; its height being 28 feet and its breadth about 16 feet. The clerestory will be lighted by ten depressed pointed windows on each side. Only the nave will at present be proceeded with. The church has been designed by Mr. Hansom, architect, and will be built by Mr. Wulson, of Wolverhampton. Its total cost has been estimated at upwards of 10,000*l.*

Wirksworth.—Tenders are being sent in for lighting the church with gas. Other improvements are talked of, one of which would be the removal of the colossal pillars supporting the loft, which are said to be more suitable for the basement of a large bridge than for the bearers of a light gallery.

Westhoughton.—The first stone of the new Sunday and day school, with master's house attached, was on Wednesday week laid at Wingates, in Westhoughton, by Mr. John Silvester, of Atherton, who, according to the *Bolton Chronicle*, has guaranteed the cost of the buildings, about 700*l.* The ground was given by Mr. Starkie, of Hunsford, and the Earl of Ellesmere is one of the largest contributors. The schools are intended to hold 250 children.

Newark.—The Improvement Act Committee, says a local paper, "met on Friday last to consider the applications and testimonials of candidates for the office of Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances. We learn that five persons applied. It seems, however, that the committee was not sufficiently satisfied with the abilities of any of the candidates: no appointment was therefore made; but Mr. Bailey, one of the candidates, was instructed to survey the town, and prepare plans of the work needful to be done. If such plans are approved, and Mr. Bailey is considered competent in other respects to fill the office, he will be recommended by the committee to the commissioners, and if not appointed, he is to be paid for his plans. An opinion is very prevalent in the town, that it would be best to employ an experienced engineer to make a survey, and suggest a plan for draining and otherwise improving the town, and so lay a good foundation for the commissioners and their agents to work upon."

Hessle.—The church of Hessle is to be restored and enlarged. The south wall is to be taken down and rebuilt, extending five or six feet into the churchyard, thereby forming a wide south aisle, with seats or pews holding seven persons each. The centre of the church is to be repewed on a similar plan, and the three aisles, north, south, and centre, conti-

nued nearly up to the west door. 200 additional sittings will be obtained. The estimate of the alterations is 400*l.*, to be raised by subscription and mortgage.

York.—The works of the new church in Holgate-road are completed, and the opening of the church was fixed for Tuesday last. It has been erected by private subscription, and is to be opened by licence, as it cannot be consecrated for want of an endowment. There is still wanting about 400*l.* of the expense of erecting the building. The North Riding of Yorkshire Lunatic Asylum, says the *Staffordshire Advertiser*, "which was estimated and guaranteed not to cost more than 30,000*l.*, has already had three times 30,000*l.* expended upon it, and the contractors are vigorously going on with the fourth 30,000*l.*"

Dalmellington.—The "free" church lately erected here, according to the *Ayrshire Advertiser*, was opened for public worship on Sunday week. It is situated at the western entrance to the village, on the road from Ayr. It is in the plain Gothic style, having buttresses at each front corner, pinnacles in the middle, 55 feet high, on each side of the doorway, large window above, and finished on the top with bell turret in the centre. The building is 50 feet in length, by 40 feet in breadth within the walls: the height of side walls is 18 feet, and to the ceiling 27 feet. It affords accommodation to 400 sitters. There is no gallery. The church and vestry are lighted with gas. The plan and specifications were prepared by Mr. David Millar, architect, formerly of Glasgow. The contractors were Messrs. W. and R. Anderson, Dalmellington, for mason work; Messrs. Steven and Cameron, Glasgow, for wood, wright, and plaster work; Messrs. W. Hight and Son, Ayr, for slater, plumber, and gas-fitting, &c. The cost of the whole will be somewhere about 700*l.*

ARCHITECTURAL AND OTHER NEWS IN IRELAND.

Additions are to be built to each end of the Tullamore Union Fever Hospital, and two stories to be raised on same, according to plans, &c., by the Poor Law Commissioners' architect.

Sundry contract works to the amount of 2,000*l.* are being executed at the barracks of Athlone, for her Majesty's Board of Ordnance, by Messrs. Cockburn and Son, of Dublin. The contract for completion of the works on the Killarney Junction Railway has been taken by Mr. Dargan, but operations will not commence until February, 1852.

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A new wing is to be erected at the Dungarvon Union-workhouse. Mr. Matthew Byrne is the builder at 1,053*l.*: the works have commenced.

The new Roman Catholic Church at Rush has been lately dedicated: its total length is 93 feet and its width 40 feet: it is calculated to accommodate about 2,000 persons.

The Pavilion in the city of Armagh has, we understand, been purchased by Dr. Culien, Roman Catholic Primate, for the purpose of its conversion into a convent, &c.

The Midland Great Western Railway Company are about forming a branch line from Mullingar to Cavan. Mr. G. W. Hemans and Mr. Atkinson will be the engineers in chief in its construction. A sum of 71,000*l.* (out of 300,000*l.* granted by Government to the company) is at the disposal of the directors, and they purpose appropriating it to the construction of a branch line to Tuam.

The Commissioners of the Board of Public Works issued up to the 31st December, 1850, 1777,954*l.* Treasury loans in Ireland for drainage, subsoiling, and construction of farm roads, &c. The balance for further appropriation is 130,760*l.* The average cost of thorough drainage was 45*l.* 10*s.* per acre, and 30,000 acres were improved last year.

Extensive additions and improvements are being made to the docks at Limerick under the direction of Mr. Long, C.E.: they have